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PATENT APPLICATION

1633

#13

8-22-02

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
: Examiner: David Nikodem  
TETSUYOSHI ISHIWATA et al. )  
: Group Art Unit: 1633  
Application No.: 09/730,559 )  
: Filed: December 7, 2000 )  
: For: IgA NEPHROPATHY-RELATED )  
GENES : August 15, 2002

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

Applicants respond to the Official Action dated July 17, 2002 (Paper No. 12) in the above-identified application, as follows.

REMARKS

In the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner required that Applicants elect for prosecution one of the inventions among Groups I - VI for the reasons noted.

In response, Applicants hereby elect to prosecute the invention of Group 1-37, namely claims 1-3, 5, 7, 10-13, 18 and 19. However, Applicants wish to point out to the Examiner the Commissioner's Official Gazette Notice of March 4, 1996 "Guidance on Treatment of Product and Process Claims" which addresses the issue of processes "limited to making or using a nonobvious product" and stated that claims to the nonelected process